

2018 ASFA Officer Nominations

Below is the slate of nominated officers for the 2018-2020 ASFA Board of Directors. A brief biography for each follows the listing. Election will be held at the 2018 ASFA ACoD.

President:	Jeff Lipps
1st Vice President:	Phil Fullum
2nd Vice President:	Gregory Breitbach
Chief Financial Officer:	Gary Roush
Recording Secretary:	Ping Pirrung
Corresponding Secretary:	Holly Hamilton

PRESIDENT: Jeff Lipps

More than twenty years ago, Kathy and I decided we wanted to become a dog household. After visiting a local Saluki breeder, we fell in love with the breed. While we started our adventure in Salukis as the classic "pet home," that seemed to be short lived. We quickly had our own Kennel name, and doubled our household Saluki population.

One of our objectives in starting our Kennel was to breed dual champions. We wanted Salukis that not only exemplify the breed standard, but also perform on the field with the strength, agility and athleticism the Saluki hunters were expected to possess. Windrush Salukis produced its first litter in 1999. Since then, five litters have been whelped. Many of those Salukis have gone on to excel in both the conformation ring and on the lure coursing field. Windrush Salukis has had 38 AKC Conformation Champions, 22 of whom were dual champions. Typically, seven to ten of our Salukis run regularly in lure coursing events. The top three lifetime ASFA Salukis are from our Kennel, Windrush Salukis. Windrush Salukis has had two BII winners.

My love of lure coursing quickly drove me to give what I could to the sport. I have been active in the formation of two lure coursing clubs in the Columbus, Ohio area. In 2014, we reactivated one of these clubs. In 2015, it ran the most hounds in the country, more than 500 hounds.

In 2000, I received my All Breed ASFA Judging License. Since then I have been privileged to be asked to judge the International Invitational three times and multiple Regional Invitationals. I have also been the number one Judge based on the number of hounds judged in three different years.

In addition, I have dedicated a portion of my life when I am not practicing law in my own law firm, to volunteering in various capacities in lure coursing and Saluki related activities. For ASFA, I was elected to be its first Chief Financial Officer, a position I held for two, two-year terms (2004-2008). I was elected President of ASFA, serving from 2008-2012. I was then elected to my second stint as ASFA's Chief Financial Officer (2012 – 2016). I am currently ASFA President (term ends in 2018).

As to my law practice, I started my own law firm in 1994. Since then, the firm has expanded to more than 35 lawyers and has offices in Columbus, Chicago, NYC, and Washington D.C.

1st VICE PRESIDENT: Phil Fullum

In 2016 I was elected as First VP of ASFA, my first board position. These past two years have been a learning experience for me, and hopefully I have contributed some small extent to ASFA. During this time I have also served on the judges committee, and as chair of the Long Range Planning committee, and the chair of then newly created Records Coordination Committee.

I have tried to be open to input from all participants of lure coursing, soliciting opinions at each event I have attended. I have also tried to facilitate communication and understanding.

Many of the comments I have received focused on the lack of responsiveness of the ASFA board, and the slowness of response. While it is understandable that such a geographical diverse group as the ASFA Board, with significant other personal responsibilities, can be slow to respond, what is not always well understood by the fancy is the structural limitations associated with board decisions.

ASFA has not done the greatest job communication with the fancy. We have not kept the community informed of what is happening, and what progress we have made. When a major crash of the

records computer occurred in May, we did not effectively transmit this information, nor have we kept people updated on progress and lack of progress towards the repair of the system.

Based on these experiences, I hope to help ASFA improve its proactive communication, and responsiveness to the greater lure coursing community.

For those not familiar with me, a brief background. I have been involved with ASFA lure coursing since 1977, and became an all-breed licensed judge in 1982. My coursing experience has covered much of the US, as well as a single event in England. For the past several years I have also been judging open field events, allowing me to observe first hand real coursing, without the constraints of field, equipment, or artificial rules.

I also serve as President of the Lobo Lure Coursing Club located in New Mexico. While we are a small club, primarily limited by the small population of our state, we have a dynamic core group, and have successfully held four ASFA trials per year for many years. We take great pride in the quality of our events, and endeavor to run them as professionally and in an exhibitor supportive manor as possible. Our philosophy has been to make the trials enjoyable, safe and fair.

On a more personal note, have a retirement date set for the beginning of 2018, and this should allow me to spend more time on my duties as First VP for ASFA, and possibly attend more events. I appreciate the opportunity to have served on the ASFA Board for the past two years, and hope that I may continue for the next two years.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: Gregory Breitbach

I obtained my first Afghan Hound in 1975. After attending a conformation fun match, they were doing a demonstration of lure coursing. My Afghan loved it and I became hooked on the experience. Since then I have had several more Afghans, several Greyhounds and three Pharaoh Hounds.

I became a licensed judge in 1992 with encouragement from Jack Southam. I am currently serving as Director of Region 6 for ASFA. I have accepted the duties of ASFA Judges Licensing Chair, Chair of Judges Committee, and Chair of Field Trial Improvement Committee.

I have served in every position at field trials for my home club and other clubs events I attend. I assist with training new exhibitors and enthusiastically promote opportunities for others to grow into this sport.

I was recently asked if I thought ASFA would be around in 20 years. Our discussion was interrupted prior to answering, but I have thought about that question. Currently, the odds do not look great with entries and number of events declining. My feeling for the long term viability of ASFA is that when we get additional types of competition started under the auspices of ASFA that we can bring back exhibitors lost to other events currently competing for every one's attention and entry.

Several committees are exploring options and I believe that the Second Vice President should be receiving input from the fancy and be available to provide input from the fancy to help guide the committees.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: Gary Roush

I attended my first ASFA lure course in June 1974. Since that time, I have been very active in lure coursing serving often as a judge, field trial chairman and lure operator. During that time, I have served as treasurer for the Colorado Lure Coursing Association, the Afghan Hound Club of Greater Denver, and the Saluki Club of America.

I have also been active in ASFA. I was the chairman of the Constitution Committee that wrote ASFA's constitution in 1978. I served on the Board of ASFA as First Vice-President from 1978 to 1980, President from 1980 to 1984, and Immediate Past President from 1984 to 1986. I have served as ASFA Chief Financial Officer from March 2008 to March 2012, from March 2016 to March 2018, and as Second Vice President from March 2013 to March 2015.

I am a retired Certified Public Accountant. Although its financial position has improved from 2008, ASFA continues to have numerous financial and operational challenges.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Ping Pirrung

I am very honored to accept the nomination for Recording Secretary of ASFA. I view this position on the ASFA Board as one of great responsibility. I have experienced Joe Shoemaker's incredible job as ASFA's Recording Secretary and they are big shoes to fill. However, I know with his willingness to share his experience and knowledge, I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to follow in his footsteps.

I have been involved with lure coursing and ASFA since I first learned of lure coursing around 1975. This is a sport dear to my heart for so many reasons. I meet amazing people and dogs and spend a weekend outside enjoying the company of like-minded people and their hounds.

One could easily say that my life has gone to the dogs Or has always been there.

At no time during my life have I been without a dog of some sort. My family always had at least two dogs and at times even got up to my Dad's imposed limit of 4. Even in college, my dog accompanied me to every class as well as up on stage to accept my diploma.

Borzoi were my beginning with sighthounds. My husband, at the time, and I showed and bred Borzoi. Lure coursing was a natural fit, as my favorite place to be is outside and active. The athleticism along with the pure joy of watching the dogs do what they were bred to do is an indescribable thrill.

We had two daughters who also went with us to almost all field trials with my second daughter practically being born on a coursing field. At times I even ventured off coursing on my own. There are some that remember me slipping dogs with a baby in a back pack and a camera in my other hand. After the girls were old enough that they could be on their own during a trial, I became a judge. This has afforded me the opportunity to see dogs lure course all over the county at the same time to experience some amazing runs.

Whippets came into my life when my daughters were young and since the late 1980's I have had only Whippets. I am now remarried to Dennis McCann who enjoys our growing family at Labyrinth Whippets. At this point we have 5 living at our house and enjoy every minute of it. During the spring and fall almost every weekend is taken up with lure coursing or open field coursing. During the week I spend a lot of time with the dogs either biking, walking or working on their skills.

I have been the Field Trial Secretary for several II's, the first being in the early '80s. At most field trials I love to help out in whatever way I can; I would rather be doing something rather than sitting around waiting for our dogs turn to run. I am a founding member of Tri-State Sighthound Club in Western PA and have been President of the club for several years. I was elected as the Corresponding Secretary of the ASFA in 2008 and reelected in 2010 which was a joy as it put me in touch with so many of the fancy all over the country. I was elected President of ASFA in 2012 and reelected in 2014. I have embraced the challenges and enjoyed the work of maintaining ASFA as the premier lure coursing organization.

Every weekend we have many opportunities to attend a myriad of dog related activities. The challenge is to keep ASFA lure coursing a prominent choice. With your passion and contributions, together we can position and strengthen ASFA for the future.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Holly Hamilton

I began lure coursing in 1997 in the Pacific Northwest with my basenji FC Chujo's Aramis Nick, FCH, VFCh (Nick). Shortly after acquiring Nick, an Ibizan hound joined our home. Ch Gryphons Winchestr Cathedral, FCH (Winnie). I quickly acquired the lure coursing bug along with travelling to the basenji national and the ASFA II several times. I began assisting with trials with the Evergreen Basenji Club as well as the Twin Peaks Ibizan Hound Club in a number of capacities. Additionally, I became editor of Third Eye, newsletter for the Ibizan Hound Club of US.

Several times during the last 15 years I have been either Field Trial Secretary or Field Trial Chairman for the basenji and Ibizan hound nationals. In 2002 I obtained my AKC judging license and in 2008, my ASFA judging license. I've had the privilege of judging both basenji and borzoi national lure coursing events. I've been active with several clubs including the Evergreen Basenji Club, Twin Peaks Ibizan Hound Club, Ohio Kentucky Indiana Gazehound Organization, Cincinnati Basenji Club, Basenji Club of America and the Ibizan Hound Club of the US. I've had the opportunity to write articles for my national club newsletters.

Throughout the years I have either owned or co-owned six Best in Field basenjies as well as two Best in Field Ibizan Hounds. I now live in Cincinnati, OH and currently own two basenjies and three Ibizan hounds. I've been teaching English (high school and college) for 23 years.